LATEST NEWS
BY TELEGRAPH

Domestic

Thomas McKann deliberately set fire to the house in which his wife lay sick. Their daughter rushed through the smoke and flame and dragged her mother to safety.

William A. Hewett is held in heavy bail on the charge of making a daring attempt to steal gold bullion from an express train in Redding terminal.

Officials of the Savings Bank of New Britain, Ct., expect to recover the securities stolen by the treasurer, William D. Walsh.

A Mexican who escaped the massacre of a party of 15 who were ambushed by Yaqui Indians tells of his terrible experiences.

After being attacked by a crowd of Hungarians in New Brunswick, Pa., Constable Dolan shot into the crowd and killed two men.

Seven passengers were injured during a collision of sleeping coaches in Broad Street station, Philadelphia.

Gus Ringling, head of the greatest circus combination in the world, owning a controlling interest in the Barnum and Bailey, Forepaugh-Sells and the Ringling Brothers circuses, died in New Orleans of a long prostration of diseases.

Alfred H. Smith, vice president of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad, accused of manslaughter as the result of the collision of the Brewster express, in which 21 were killed, has been acquitted.

A wireless message to The American from the battleship Louisiana says that Admiral Evans has announced that he will return to New York by way of the Suez Canal.

Frank Van Miller, son of Rev. John H. Miller, of Missouri, and a student at the University of Pennsylvania, has proven himself in the doctor way of his room.

Acting Police Captain Kuhne, of Brooklyn, N. Y., was sentenced to 30 days in jail for disobeying orders to obey a court writ restraining him from making further measurements of Banker Frank Jenkins.

William Lamb, a New York broker, was granted a divorce from his wife, the broker's chauffeur testifying against co-respondent.

The chambers of commerce of Rochester, N. Y., and Erie, Pa., want a deeper waterway from Pittsburg to Lake Ontario.

Thirty-seven pretty girls from Scotland, who come to marry New Year's Day, arrived in New York on the steamer California.

The committee of bankers appointed by Governor Hughes prescribed a report regulating the trust banks and trust companies.

Two negroes were electrocuted in New Jersey for the murder of Mrs. Edward Hance and Thomas Swoboda.

An association to re-establish the Army canteen has been organized in New York.

A mob of 500 union laborers escorted six non-unionists out of Butte, Mont.

Ida Hall, aged seventeen years, was killed while walking on the railroad track near Norristown, Pa., at the same moment her father was killed.

Theodore Marburg, of Baltimore, delivered an address before the Civic Federation, pronouncing the trust more gold into the national currency.

Lieut. Jaime, governor elect of the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad, was found dead in a bathtub at St. Louis.

The eight-year-old daughter of Mrs. Mary Hurdle, of Forestville, Md., found her mother and brother murdered.

The number of dead brought from the Fairmont mine at Monongah, W. Va., now numbers 334.

Foreign

The story that Count Hans Ferdinand von Hochberg, a member of the Pless family, has renounced the title of count is confirmed in Berlin.

A Russian police colonel was killed during a fight following an attempt to seize a money box in the Jewish section of that city.

The Sultan, a Turk to the core, characterizes the dispatch of the American fleet to the Pacific as "a noteworthy undertaking."

Announcement is made that Prussian Railroad authorities intend to make special reductions in freight rates on imported coal.

Lieutenant General Stoessel was accused by Gen. Kuroki of having shown the white feather under fire on two occasions.

M. Bleriot, the aeronautic expert, had another narrow escape when his aeroplane came down.

J. Israel Tarte, former minister of public works died in Montreal, Canada.

Minister of Labor Lemieux, of Canada, has ordered a farm-girl inquest at Tokio and was given the assurance that there will be no more emigration to British Columbia, but will not change the treaty.

Admiral Rojestvensky, who commanded the ill-fated Russian fleet to the Pacific, says the cruise can be made safely and he believes it will have "a beneficial effect in curbing the pretensions of the Japanese."

The Japanese financial program involves a reduction in the expenses of the army and navy of $60,000,000 in six years whereby $200,000,000 will be saved.

Olga Seiko, a Russian woman, charged with frauds involving $300,000, has jumped her bail and fled from St. Petersburg.

The English turbine torpedo-boat destroyer Turbine broke all records by attaining a speed of 37.037 knots.

The Chinese Empire has increased the import tax on all kinds of sugar by 5 to 10 per cent.

Count Zeppelin's airship and the monster houseboat in which it is kept, on Lake Constance, have been badly damaged in a hurricane. The total loss is estimated at $15,000.

Russian detectives are making numerous arrests in St. Petersburg in connection with the murder of Nicholas Tachalkovsky, founder of the first revolutionary circle.

Baron Kurine, the Japanese ambassador to France, has loaned a denial of rumors that a new Japanese loan is about to be floated here and in London.

The Chinese may boycott the British because of the partiality of the West River by British gunboats.

Nizam-es-Sultan, the governor of Izzahan, has accepted the task of forming a new Persian cabinet.

MINERS' HEADS BLOWN OFF BY EXPLOSION

Two Hundred Perish in Pennsylvania Mine.

WAS LIKE AN EARTHQUAKE.

Colliery Wrecked and a Mass of Flames.

DUST BLOWN ACROSS RIVER.

Loss of Life in Mine at Pittsburg Coal Company, at Jacobs Creek, Pa., Might Have Been Much, but 200 Greeks Took a Day Off to Attend a Catholic Church Festival—Third Disaster in the Same Coal Vein in 19 Days, Costing Nearly 600 Lives.

MINE DISASTERS OF 1907.

January 14—Explosion at Clinton, Ia., 7 killed.
January 23—Explosion in Colorado Fuel and Iron Company's mine, 24 killed.
January 26—Explosion of gas damp at Lancaster, W. Va.; 12 killed.
January 28 — Explosion at Thurmont, W. Va.; 30 killed.
March 2—Explosion at Taylor, Pa.; 12 killed.
May 1 — Explosion at Leaf Creek District, W. Va.; 3 killed.
June 18—Explosion at Pittsburg, Pa.; 7 killed.
December 2—Explosion at Fayetteville, Pa.; 14 killed.
December 6—Explosion in mines Nos. 6 and 8, of the Consolidation Coal Company, at Monongah, W. Va.; 358 dead.
December 16—Explosion in Zolande Coal and Coke Company's mine at Zolande, Ala.; 61 killed.
December 19 — Explosion in mine of Pittsburg Coal Company, near Connellsville, Pa.; 200 dead.

Jacobs Creek, Pa. (Special).—An explosion of gas in the Darr mine of the Pittsburg Coal Company here entombed between 200 and 250 miners, and there is scarcely a ray of hope that a single one of them will be taken from the mines alive. Parties headed by Superintendent Wyatt, in the vicinity of the mine and the condition of the few bodies found early in the rescue work indicate an explosion of such terrific force that it seems impossible that anyone could have survived it. All of the bodies taken out up to this time are terribly mutilated and three of them are headless.

This is the third mine disaster since the first of the month in the coke and bituminous coal mining district of Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Five were killed in Darr mine, near Pax-ton City, and the two mines at Monongah, W. Va., in which the earlier explosions happened, are in the same belt as the local workings. Thursday's catastrophe swells the number of victims of deadly mine gas for the 19 days to between 550 and 600.

That the disaster does not equal or even surpass in loss of life and attendant horrors the one in West Virginia is due to the devotion to church duties of a considerable number of the miners. In observance of the festival many of the 400 or more men regularly employed at the mine did not go to work. Those who escaped through this reason are mainly Greeks. They quarrel among themselves and they suspended work to celebrate St. Nicholas' Day.

As near the mine at Monongah, the explosion followed a brief shutdown, the Darr mine having been closed Tuesday and Wednesday.

It was just 11:30 o'clock when the tenth trip of loaded cars had been brought out to the tipple, and there came an awful rumbling sound, followed immediately by a loud report and a concussion that shook nearby buildings, and was felt within a radius of several miles. At the same time there came out of the mouth of the mine an immense cloud of dense smoke and dust that floated across the Youghiogheny River.

Intuitively, everyone in the vicinity knew what had happened and all started for the one place, the mouth of the mine. Fire engines near the mine and the homes of many of the miners, as that ends a portion of those who started for the scene were able to reach it, there being scant facilities for crossing the stream. To those who could not cross the river the smoke and dust pouring from the mine's mouth told a story of horrible fate in the bowels of the mines, and from this source came reports that were persistent until late in the day that the mine was burning.

Rescuing parties were kept in operation almost without interruption, however, the power plant being within a few feet of the explosion, and up to this time the rescuers have found no fire or smoke in the mine. As far as known only one man escaped.

Enoch Mapleton, a pumper, emerged from one of the side entries shortly after the explosion had left the part of the mine where most of the men were working, and was on his way to the engine room for oil.

"I was near entry 21," said he, "when I heard an awful rumbling. I started towards the entry, but the next instant I was blinded and for a time, I did not know anything. Then I got to the side entry and worked my way out."

Funston To Quit Goldfield.

Goldfield, Nev. (Special).—Gen. Funston has left Goldfield for San Francisco. Gov. Sparks will also leave for his ranch, near Carson City.

About $2,000 worth of high-grade ore was recovered in a raid by Constable Inmann and his deputies on a cellar occupied by a miner named Roth. A few new men arrived to work in the mines. They came from southern part of the State.

Man Tarred And Feathered.

Wyatt, Ind. (Special).—A stranger, who said he was C. P. Calvin, was arrested here charged with making improper advances to Dora Peters, a feeble-minded girl. He was arraigned before Justice Markham but before the trial could proceed a mob of townsmen took him to the outskirts of town and smeared him with tar and feathers. The mob marched him back to the village, hooting and yelling and applying switches. He was then ordered to leave.

THE POWERS ARE WATCHING PERSIA

England, Russia and Germany Are Interested.

Teheran (By Cable).—On behalf of the nation the Persian Parliament has issued a manifesto to the world explaining the present constitutional crisis and appealing for assistance. The manifesto, which was distributed to the foreign legations and consulates here, says:

"When the affairs of the empire had fallen into a hopeless state the nation saw fit only salvation in constitutional government. The late Shah granted a constitution, and the reigning Shah confirmed it, but persons who under the despotic regime were accustomed to oppress the people misled our young sovereign into the belief that the constitution was the cause of the present troubles.

"The nation wants to do nothing that will disturb peace, but, in view of the attack of the reactionary members of the government, it will defend the constitution, its only hope, to the utmost.

"By means of this manifesto the Persian nation makes known to all legations and foreign diplomatic representatives the actual condition of the affairs, and informs them that the sovereign is violating his covenant with the people. It makes this announcement to all the nations of the world, convinced that they will favor brotherly love to the 10,000,000 Persians and not allow their rights to be trodden under foot."

WAR ON WOOD PULP DUTY.

Printing Trades Join Publications in Fight Against Trust.

Indianapolis, Ind. (Special).—At the joint conference here of heads of international unions composing the allied printing trades of America it was decided unanimously that every union organization in the United States whose members handle or do work in the publishing of newspapers shall be instructed to begin a campaign against the so-called wood plup and white paper trust.

The allied trades will act with the Newspaper Publishers' Association of America in an effort to abolish the duty on wood pulp and white paper.

GAVE DAUGHTER FATAL DOSE.

Oxalic Acid Taken For Epsom Salts Causes Death.

Bethlehem (Special).—Mrs. Abraham Bodeman went to the family medicine chest to procure a bottle of Epsom salts, but by mistake got hold of a bottle of oxalic acid. Not noticing the difference, she administered a generous dose to her daughter, Miss Jennie Beidelman, who was ill. The girl suffered excruciating pains until death came.

Miss Jennie was 22 years old and a most popular young woman. The mother is in a state of total collapse.

BURNS $10,000; DIES.

Aged Man Destroys Hoarded Wealth Then Expires.

Marion, Ind. (Special).—John Gordon, a farmer of this county, burned $10,000 in bills a short time before he died. Gordon was 85 years old and in the last few weeks had grown childish. He had steadfastly refused to put the $10,000, the savings of years, into a bank, but kept the bills under his bed pillow.

Tuesday he amused himself by setting fire to them and watching them burn. He succumbed to heart disease soon afterward.

Cholera Rages On Ship.

Victoria, B. C. (Special).—Mail advices from Hong Kong tell of the arrival of a steamer at that port from Hong Hee, which was quarantined with 1,236 Chinese on board, having come from Singapore for Swatow. Thirty-eight deaths had occurred among the steamer Shawmut sailed. The quarantine officers were segregating the Chinese, who were transferred to 27 junks, chartered for the purpose.

$20,000 For Princeton.

Trenton, N. J. (Special).—Trenton officers of the Mercer County Board of Freeholders have been notified that Andrew Carnegie proposes to spend $20,000 more at Princeton, for the construction of two bridges, the $50,000 bridges which he built across the lake he gave to Princeton University.

"Thank God, I'm Going."

Reading, Pa. (Special).—Frank Lamb, aged 36, was convicted of murder in the first degree here for killing Mrs. Gertrude Clinton, his "affinity," three months ago by cutting her throat. Palmer thanked the jury when the verdict was rendered and added: "Thank God, I'm going."

Another Simplon Tunnel.

Berne (By Cable).—The construction of a second Simplon Tunnel will be begun as soon as practicable. The Federal Council today approved the plan which had already passed the state council. The construction will be undertaken by the administration of the federal railroads. The first tunnel was begun in 1898 and cost $14,000,000.

FINANCIAL

The wheat bears have been routed. A cable report said the Russian Government will buy 100,000 locomotives.

It is said that Standard Oil people have been buying a great deal of American Smelting stock.

Baron Rothschild has given to Stuyvesant Fish proxies for his 1,850 shares of Illinois Central s'c, in opposition to E. H. Harriman.

Reading Company directors declared the regular semi-annual dividend on the common stock.

New York Central's net earnings for the present quarter decreased $1,167,800, although there was also increase of $284,900 in gross earnings.

There is a fear that the bank rate in Berlin may go to 8 per cent.

Last year the bulls could see a vast profit in the anthracite coal lands and railroad separation. Now the bears pretend to see in it a great loss. It requires precious little logic to convince some people.

MANY MINERS' LIVES ARE BEING SACRIFICED

Large Number of Disasters Could Be Prevented.

U. S. GOVERNMENT EXPERTS REPORT.

Three Times as Many Miners in Proportion to the Number Employed Are Killed in the United States Than in European Countries—More Enlightened Methods Urged.

Washington, D. C. (Special).—The coal mines of the United States are killing three times as many men per 1,000 employed as those of most European countries. In the last 17 years 22,804 men have given up their lives in the mines of this country. As many violent deaths have occurred in the mines during the last six years as during the preceding 11 years. The number of fatal accidents each year is now double that of the year 1895. In 1906 6,861 men were killed or injured in the mines, the killed numbering 2,061 and the injured 4,800.

These terrible facts have been gathered by government experts acting under orders from Secretary Garfield, of the Interior Department, to investigate the causes of mine accidents, particularly those resulting from explosions, and to make suggestion as to how mining conditions may be improved and accidents prevented.

The Secretary's request for information was sent to George Otis Smith, director of the Geological Survey, last June, who placed these investigations under the technologic branch, Clarence Hall, explosives expert, and Eugene McAuliffe, mine examinations of the more dangerous coal mines of Indian Territory. In addition, Mr. Hall and his assistant, Walter O. Snelling, have investigated the nature and causes of a number of disastrous coal-mine explosions in several of the states.

The conclusion of the experts are recited in a bulletin just issued on "Coal-mine Accidents; Their Causes and Prevention."

The statement of Mr. Holmes in the bulletin that an increase in the number and in the seriousness of mine explosions may be expected as coal mining has already proved fatal, for since the words were written the country has been startled with dire news of three mine explosions costing nearly 500 lives. The first explosion occurred in Pennsylvania in the early part of December, and cost 32 lives. Then followed the Monongah mine disaster in West Virginia with a loss of nearly 400 lives, and the Darr mine explosion, with a loss of 22